

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Statement of Board of Equalization Member Betty T. Yee on Today's Supreme Court Action on Same Sex Marriage**

**SACRAMENTO** --- First District Board of Equalization Member Betty T. Yee issued the following statement today in response to the United States Supreme Court's decisions in *Perry v. Hollingsworth*, invalidating Proposition 8's ban on same sex marriage, and *Windsor v. U.S.*, invalidating the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA):

"Today's double header victory for equal rights is historic for Californians and across the nation. Nationally, same sex couples will soon enjoy over 1,000 federal rights. Here in California, same sex couples will again be able to marry as soon as the lower courts take action.

"This action reflects rapidly growing majorities recognizing the dignity and humanity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans and their families. Marriage equality has taken a major step forward today toward becoming the law of the land across the nation.

"Today's work is not done. Every public official in California has a duty and responsibility to ensure marriage licenses and federal marriage benefits are made conveniently available to same sex couples as soon as possible. I will continue to work for these goals in my capacity as a Member of the Board of Equalization."

Board Member Betty T. Yee was elected to her post in November 2006. Her district includes many of California's coastal counties, from Del Norte to Santa Barbara, and includes the entire San Francisco Bay Area. Ms. Yee previously served as Chief Deputy Director for Budget at the California Department of Finance, covering a wide array of state and local finance policy matters.

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